C1

10. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the first traffic data packets sending step comprises outputting the first traffic data packets at least at a minimum data rate according to the guaranteed level of service.

Please rewrite claim 32 as set forth below in clean form. Additionally, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.21(c)(1)(ii), amended claim 32 is set forth in a marked up version in the pages attached to this amendment.

32. (Amended) The method as in claim 30, wherein the identifying step comprises:

C2

sending a routing request message via the wide area packet switched network from the first telephony server to a routing and administration server having said routing and administration database, the routing request message including said at least part of the called number; and

receiving from the routing and administration server via the wide area packet switched network a routing response including the identity of said second telephony server and the identity of a predetermined communication path through the wide area packet switched network to the second telephony server capable of providing a guaranteed level of service.

Please rewrite claim 35 as set forth below in clean form. Additionally, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.21(c)(1)(ii), amended claim 35 is set forth in a marked up version in the pages attached to this amendment.

C3

35. (Amended) A method of telecommunication over a wide area packet switched network, the method comprising:

sending from a calling party a called number, corresponding to a called

party, to a first central office connected to a first telephone system;

forwarding the called number from the first central office to a first telephony server, connected to the first telephone system and in communication with the wide area packet switched network;

identifying a second telephony server, in communication with the wide area packet switched network and serving said called party in a second telephone system, from a routing and administration database by using at least part of the called number;

CONT C3

sending the called number from the first telephony server to the second telephony server via said wide area packet switched network;

establishing a communication link between the first telephony server and the second telephony server, wherein the establishing step comprises setting the communication link along a predetermined communication path within said wide area packet switched network; and

communicating telephone information between the calling and called parties via the servers and the predetermined communication path.

Please rewrite claim 36 as set forth below in clean form. Additionally, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.21(c)(1)(ii), amended claim 36 is set forth in a marked up version in the pages attached to this amendment.

36. (Amended) The method as in claim 35, wherein the setting of the communication link along the predetermined communication path comprises allocating a resource along the path for the communication link, such that the communication link will provide at least a guaranteed minimum level of service throughout the communication of the telephone information.

Please rewrite claim 37 as set forth below in clean form. Additionally, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.21(c)(1)(ii), amended claim 37 is set forth in a marked up version in the pages attached to this amendment.

Cont c3

37. (Amended) The method as in claim 35, wherein the identifying step comprises:

sending a routing request via the wide area packet switched network from the first telephony server to a routing and administration server having said routing and administration database; and

receiving from the routing and administration server via the wide area packet switched network a routing response including the identity of said second telephony server and an identification corresponding to the predetermined communication path to the second telephony server.

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his careful consideration of the subject application. Applicant further thanks the Examiner for indicating the claim 11 contains allowable subject matter. The Examiner has rejected all other pending claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) in light of various combinations of the following alleged prior art references: (i) Yang (FRC 1798 – "INETPhone: Telephone Services and Servers on Internet"); (ii) U.S. Patent 5,995,503 to Crawley; (iii) U.S. Patent 6,233,318 to Picard; and (iv) U.S. Patent 5,483,587 to Hogan. Applicant has amended claims 10, 32, and 35-37 to more clearly define and point out the claimed invention. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejections and requests further